

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 989

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Jerry White upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Jerry White, who has devoted nearly forty years to the education and instruction of young athletes; on March 15, 2008, Mr. White will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee high school athletics; and

WHEREAS, Coach White began his career with the TSSAA in 1967 as a teacher and coach at Happy Valley Elementary School in Carter County, followed by service as a head basketball coach and track coach at Cloudland High School in Roan Mountain; and

WHEREAS, he has rendered sterling service as the boys' head basketball coach, track coach, and golf coach at Hampton High School since 1970; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious tenure as a coach, Mr. Jerry White has posted an overall 661-421 winning record; his remarkably successful teams captured fourteen conference championships, fifteen district titles, eight region championships, five TSSAA State tournament appearances, and two TSSAA runner-up appearances; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards or accolades, Jerry White is a three-time winner of the Tennessee Athletic Coaches Association Coach of the Year (1986, 1992, and 1993), achieved two thirty-win seasons, coached five seasons with twenty-eight or more wins, and coached fifteen seasons which culminated in twenty or more wins; and

WHEREAS, a native of Butler, Mr. White attended Hampton High School, where he excelled in basketball and played for legendary coach Buck Van Huss, who is also a member of the TSSAA Hall of Fame; exhibiting outstanding athletic abilities, Mr. White was an all-star player on the 1960 Hampton High School TSSAA State Basketball Championship team; and

WHEREAS, he was also a force to be reckoned with as a player on the mens' basketball teams at the University of South Carolina and at East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and passionate sportsman, Jerry White has never missed a game in his entire career as both a player and coach; and

WHEREAS, the significance of Coach White's impact cannot be adequately measured by his number of years as a member of the TSSAA; his positive impact on the lives of students, athletes, fellow coaches, and administrators will continue to resound in the community for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, his many sports accomplishments aside, Jerry White is an active member of the Jericho Oriental Shrine Band, plays guitar and sings in the Birch Springs Bluegrass Band, has recorded two CDs, and has written several songs; he is also an avid fisherman and golfer; and

WHEREAS, he has also lent his leadership skills as a member of the Elizabethton Golf Course Board of Directors for two years; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious career, Jerry White has enjoyed the loving support of his wife of thirty-one years, Gracie Jean Hinkle White, and his two stepsons, Carl Lee and Kail; and

WHEREAS, for the above accomplishments, and because of his impeccable moral standards and impressive work ethic, Coach White has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Jerry White, as a man of true character and commitment, exemplifies the type of selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their

tireless efforts to mold the State's youth, guiding them with solid principles and high standards, whether in the athletic arena or in the actions of daily life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family and friends of Mr. Jerry White in congratulating him upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, honor and commend Mr. White for his substantial legacy as a teacher and coach in the education community of Tennessee, and offer our gratitude for the dedication that he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.